

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 11208 171358Z

53

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-13 MBFR-04 SAJ-01 CU-04 SIL-01

LAB-06 OMB-01 NIC-01 DRC-01 /148 W

----- 113164

R 171233Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2096

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

SALT TWO GENEVA 0166

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 11208

GENEVA FOR USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET OFFICIALS COMMENT ON SAKHAROV

REF: MOSCOW 11049 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY. IN ADDITION TO DISCUSSION OF VOA JAMMING
REPORTED REFTEL, LUNCH CONVERSATION WITH CHIEF MFA USA
DIVISION KORNIYENKO, MINISTER-COUNSELOR-DESIGNATE
ANATOLIY GROMYKO AND MFA PLANNING OFFICIAL SMIRNOVSKY
SEPT 13 ALSO TOUCHED ON SAKHAROV-SOLZHENITSYN
AND
RELATED MATTERS. ASIDE FROM INDICATION OF SATIS-
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 11208 171358Z

FACTION WITH KISSINGER LINE ON SAKHAROV, EXCHANGE WAS

NOTEWORTHY. PRIMARILY FOR EXTENT TO WHICH SOVIET OFFICIALS ARE NOW ABLE WITH RELATIVE EQUANIMITY TO DISCUSS DISSENT IN THEIR OWN SOCIETY. END SUMMARY.

2. WE BROUGHT UP SAKHAROV AFFAIR IN CONTEXT OF QUESTION ABOUT ITS IMPACT ON SOVIET FOREIGN RELATIONS. AFTER OBLIGATORY DISCOURSE ON INTERNAL NATURE OF THE AFFAIR AND ON SAKHAROV'S MISTAKES AND LACK OF WIDE SUPPORT IN THE USSR, KORNIYENKO INSTINCTIVELY TURNED TO THE OFFENSIVE: THE AMERICAN EMBASSY SHOULD SEE TO IT THAT THE AFFAIR IS PROPERLY UNDERSTOOD IN THE UNITED STATES.

3. WE POINTED TO SECRETARY-DESIGNATE KISSINGER'S COMMENTS ON THE SUBJECT DURING HIS CONFIRMATION HEARINGS AS STATEMENT OF ADMINISTRATION'S VIEWS WHICH HAD WIDE DISSEMINATION IN THE U.S. KORNIYENKO SAID HE APPRECIATED KISSINGER COMMENTS AND HAD NO PROBLEMS WITH THEM. REAL DIFFICULTY STEMMED FROM AMERICAN JOURNALISTS, WHO WERE NOT ONLY NOT OBJECTIVE BUT INCONSISTENT AS WELL: IN ONE BREATH THEY SAY YAKIR IS GREAT INTELLECT, IN ANOTHER THEY DISMISS HIS EVIDENCE BECAUSE HE IS A DRUNK. WHY DOES NOT THE EMBASSY CORRECT THE MISINFORMATION OF THE JOURNALISTS?

4. WE INDICATED THAT THE REALITY OF THE SITUATION IS THAT SAKHAROV IS EXTREMELY WELL THOUGHT OF IN THE U.S., AND CITED WASHINGTON POST COMMENT, IN CONNECTION KISSINGER STATEMENT ON SAKHAROV, THAT IT IS DIFFICULT TO MOLD PUBLIC SUPPORT IN US FOR DETENTE POLICY IF BELIEF EXISTS HUMAN RIGHTS BEING VIOLATED IN SOVIET UNION. I ALSO REITERATED LINE USED WITH FURTSOVA EARLIER IN WEEK, THAT GREAT POWERS MUST GET USED TO THE REST OF THE WORLD NOT ONLY TAKING AN INTEREST IN BUT ALSO COMMENTING ON THEIR INTERNAL AFFAIRS.

5. YOUNG GROMYKO HAD LITTLE TO SAY ON SUBJECT OF DISSENTERS. SMIRNOVSKY CONTRIBUTED THE DISINGENUOUS THOUGHT THAT SOVIET AUTHORITIES FELT IT NECESSARY TO MAKE CLEAR ABROAD THAT INTERNAL OPPONENTS OF DETENTE SUCH AS SAKHAROV DID NOT HAVE BROAD SUPPORT IN USSR.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MOSCOW 11208 171358Z

6. ON OTHER SUBJECTS, SHOULD BE MENTIONED THAT IN CONNECTION WITH DISCUSSION OF CESSATION OF JAMMING (REFTEL), KORNIYENKO COMMENTED WITH SOME ASPERITY ON CONTINUED USG SUPPORT FOR RADIO LIBERTY.

7. KORNIYENKO ALSO BROUGHT UP QUESTION OF DENIAL OF VISAS TO TRADE UNION DELEGATIONS AS COLD WAR CARRYOVER. AS WE INDICATED THE IMPORTANCE OF AMERICAN TRADE UNION

OPINION ON THIS SUBJECT AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT PROGRESS IN U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS WOULD EVENTUALLY MAKE POSSIBLE MOVEMENT IN THIS FIELD AS WELL.

8. WE ATTEMPTED TO PROBE ON CSCE AND MBFR WITH SMIRNOVSKY, ON THEORY THAT MFA'S POLICY PLANNING ADMINISTRATION IS HEAVILY INVOLVED IN BOTH EFFORTS. HE WAS UNCOMMUNICATIVE, PLEADING THAT HE WAS STILL GETTING ACQUAINTED WITH HIS JOB. HE SAID THAT FONMIN KOVALEV, WHO HEADS CSCE DELEGATION, STILL RETAINS HIS HAT AS CHIEF OF POLICY PALNNING.

9. COMMENT. CAUTIOUS OBSERVERS OF THE SOVIET SCENE MAY RETAIN LEGITIMATE RESERVATIONS ABOUT INTERNAL OPENING-UP REPRESENTED BY PUBLIC REVELATIONS ABOUT DISSENT CONTAINED IN DENUNCIATIONS OF SAKHAROV-SOLZHENITSYN-YAKIR-KRASIN, ON GROUNDS THAT OPPONENTS OF DETENTE MAY MERELY BE PLAYING DEEP AND SUBTLE GAME. BUT PRIVATE DISCUSSION SUCH AS THIS ONE AND EARLIER IN WEEK WITH FURTSEVA, AS WELL AS SOVIET HANDLING OF EMIGRATION QUESTIONS OVER PAST TWO YEARS, SUGGEST INCREASED PERCEPTION IN OFFICIAL CIRCLES THAT SOVIET INTERNAL PROBLEMS ARE ALSO FOREIGN RELATIONS PROBLEMS, AND NOT AUTOMATICALLY FORBIDDEN TERRITORY FOR DISCUSSION WITH FOREIGNERS. IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER THE REGIME WILL BE ABLE, WITHOUT UPSETTING VARIOUS INTERNAL QQUILIBRIMS, TO DRAW APPROPRIATE CONCLUSIONS ABOUT DEALING WITH SUCH PROBLEMS. IT IS NOT EVEN CLEAR THAT REGIME IS AGREED ON DESIRABILITY OF DOING SO. BUT IT CAN BE SAID THAT AMONG THE VARIOUS TRENDS UNDER WAY HERE, THERE ARE SOME TRENDS WORKING IN THAT DIRECTION.
DUBS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973MOSCOW11208
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS DUBS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730930/aaaaavxt.tel
Line Count: 146
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: MOSCOW 11049 (NOTAL)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07-Aug-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <27-Nov-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET OFFICIALS COMMENT ON SAKHAROV
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005